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"Don't ever think I fell for you, or fell over you. I saw you and I made up my mind. My mind. And I made up my mind to follow you too. That's something I know how to do from way back. Maybe I didn't tell you that part about me. My gift in the woods that even Hunter looked up to and he was the best there ever was. "

Now that I think about it, Joe did have a gift in the woods. That was the way he found his mama, his ability to find lost things and things hiding from you. And in virginia, it was as valuable as money most of the time, more valuable other times. As it was when no one but Joe could actually locate at will the place where the woman called Wild lived, although it's true that except for old man Hunter, everbody else tried to make sure that she stayed hid, stayed away from them because a thing like that could harm you. Pregnant girls were the most susceptible, but so were the grandfathers. Any fascination could mark a newborn: melons, rabbits, wisteria, rope, and they tell me worst of all is a shed snakeskin. So the warnings the girls got were part of a whole group of things to look out for lest the baby came here craving or favoring the mother's distraction. But who would have thought that the old men needed to be cautioned too; told and warned against seeing, smelling or even hearing Wild....etc,"

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